

## **A Message from Washington's Colleges and Universities to Washington's Students**

May 2021

The public and private not-for-profit four-year colleges and universities and community and technical colleges in Washington are committed to meeting the college and career goals of Washington's students. We know that many Washington students want to further their education after high school or transfer to a four-year college or university.

The world continues to look different from what any of us expected. As you begin the next phase of your journey, we encourage you to consider enrolling in a college or university here in the state of Washington. **There is a place for you, and it is never too late to join us!**

We want to welcome you to our colleges and universities. They are a great way to get started on the next stage of your life. Together, our community and technical colleges as well as our public and private four-year colleges and universities are national leaders in affordability, transfer, and degree completion.

Moving forward, we believe that students and our high school partners should:

**Continue to seek challenges in current academic studies.** [Research](#) tells us that students who engage in advanced and rigorous coursework in high school enroll, continue and graduate from college at higher rates.

**Continue to emphasize the role and value of learning.** Provide students with learning opportunities that allow for meaningful student engagement with content through different modes and teacher and faculty feedback to align with student outcomes and needs.

**Reach out to us.** Our institutions are committed to removing barriers for students. If you have questions, concerns or issues reach out to the college or university. We are here to help and work with you to meet your goals.

**Access to Financial Support.** There are resources and support to help you apply for financial aid. There are affordable college and career training opportunities for everyone. The first, best step is to apply for financial aid. To learn more go to: <https://wsac.wa.gov/apply>

**Know the colleges and universities in our state proactively engaged.** We are committed to communicating, collaborating and engaging with students, families and partners now and in the future to support access to, enrollment in, and successful completion of a college education.

We are here collectively, and as individual colleges and universities, to help Washington students achieve their goals, and plans for their futures.